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Experimental Stage, 1825-1842." which is valuable for the light it throws on the social history of the period as well as for its account of the development of the university.

C. S. T.

A Tour Through Indiana in 1840: The Diary of John Parsons of Petersburg, Virginia. Edited by Kate Milner Rabb. (New York: Robert M. McBride & Co. 1920. pp 391).

The reader of this diary, kept by a young man of twenty-three, just graduated from college, must agree with the editor that, had the author lived, "his education, his native brilliancy, his charming personality, would certainly have insured him success and position." The work is marked by a spontaneity which few diaries achieve, and one wonders to what extent the young traveler wrote for his own amusement, or whether he realized that he was leaving for posterity a valuable document. For aside from the charm of the narrative, the work has considerable historical value.

The year of the author's journey was the year of the "Tippecanoe and Tyler too" campaign, and there are many interesting sidelights on the partisanship of the time. But the chief value of the diary is in its pictures of the social life and customs of middle-western cities of the forties, and of conditions of literary culture. The writer was keenly interested in education and in literature, as well as in human nature, and was fortunate in having letters of introduction to circles in which he could see a different phase of mid-century American life from that which has been described by so many other travelers.

C. S. T.

The United States in Our Own Times, 1865-1920. By Paul L. Haworth, Ph.D. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. c. 1920. pp. VIII, 563).

This is a well-written and impartial attempt to cover the entire history of the United States since the Civil War. Chief emphasis is laid on political history, for, says the author in the Preface, "after all, the business of govern-